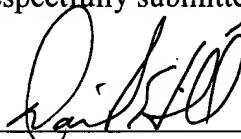


1 REMARKS

2 Favorable consideration of the present application in view of the amendments herein is
3 respectfully requested. New Claims 21-40 are now pending in this application and are ready for
4 examination on the merits. These claims have been added to more clearly define the scope of at least
5 one aspect of the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention as claimed
6 represents a patentable contribution to the art and the application is in condition for allowance. Early
7 and favorable consideration is accordingly solicited.

Dated: June 9, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Hill
Reg. No. 46,170
WARD & OLIVO
708 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) 697-6262